

## **GOVERNOR'S PERMANENT ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES**

**Meeting Date:** September 19, 2013 8:30AM @ BIARI, Cranston, RI

Attendance:	Christina Batastini	Governor Chafee's Office
	Leslie Mahler	Cognitive Rehabilitation Specialist
	Rosemary Coffey	Community Based Service Provider
	Mike Baker	BIARI President
	Sharon Brinkworth	BIARI, Executive Director
	Kim Ripoli	Veteran's Affairs
	Heather Daglieri	Dept of BHDDH
	Colleen McCarthy	Post Acute Facility
	Richard Muto	TBI Survivor
	Robin Etchingham	Executive Office of Health and Human Services
	Terri Brophy	Family member of TBI survivor

***Motion to accept minutes from 8/22/13 was seconded and approved.***

### ***Discussion/Old Business:***

1. Follow-up discussion about Jason Grammitt's presentation on Financial Disclosure.  
None of the commission members received emails with the necessary pin information to complete the forms online. Will need to contact him or the Ethics Office again.
2. Nursing home survey discussion identified that there should be follow-up to facilities that didn't respond. The next steps are to identify gaps in the continuum of care and identify the people whose needs are not being met. Richard proposed a follow-up survey with TBI survivors to gain their perspective on services that are available and those that are lacking in Rhode Island. Richard and Terri volunteered to create a draft.
3. This was the first meeting attended by Christina Batastini from the Governor's office so members of the commission were asked to briefly explain their roles on the commission and the services they provide to people with TBI and their families and caregivers.
  - a. Rosemarie Coffey - Neurorestorative
  - b. Colleen McCarthy – Intensive rehabilitation
  - c. Leslie Mahler – Outpatient – Gateway Café and individual evaluations & treatment
  - d. Kim Ripoli – VA Medical Center TBI clinic and center of excellence located in Virginia
  - e. Robin Etchingham – EOHHS - Medicaid Office is involved in the administration and development of benefits packages for the various Medicaid Managed Care Programs such as: Rhody Health, Integrated Care, and RIte Care. Expanding Medicaid services to accommodate the Affordable Care Act will be available as of January 1, 2014. There will be a new eligibility online system, in which the

public can apply for health care coverage starting on October 1, 2013. Individuals will be able to apply to for coverage online (web based), phone, mail or in person..

4. There was a quorum and the GPACTBI bylaws were approved unanimously.

***New Business:***

1. Robin Etchingham presented from EOHHS, Center for Child and Family Health regarding a state-funded grant for people with TBI. The grant total is \$250,000, \$115,000 of which is dedicated to BIARI, leaving \$135,000 available to be disbursed. A request for proposal (RFP) will be created for the current fiscal year and Robin will let members of the commission know when this is available. She could not discuss further details of the RFP because she did not want to disqualify commission members from being able to respond to the RFP.
  - a. The last time an RFP was issued was in 2007.
2. Heather announced there will be a public meeting on the amendment to the developmental disability regulations on Thursday 9-26-13. Cognitive disability will be substituted for developmental disability.

***Next meeting date & location:***      **Thursday October 19, 2013 @ 8:30 am**  
**Brain Injury Association of Rhode Island**  
**935 Park Avenue, Suite #8**  
**Cranston, RI 02910**

***Agenda for upcoming GPACTBI meeting 10-17-13 -***

- Approve meeting minutes from 9-19-13
- Ethics Commission follow-upon financial disclosure statement
- Survey of services for TBI survivors
- Identify a physiatrist for membership on the commission
- Identify a social worker for the commission – possibly from PARI
- Schedule GPACTBI meeting dates for the first quarter of 2014
- New business

***Upcoming Meeting Dates/Times (8:30 at BIARI office, unless otherwise noted):***

Thursday October 17  
Thursday November 21  
Thursday December 19

**Respectfully Submitted:**

Leslie Mahler

[lmahler@uri.edu](mailto:lmahler@uri.edu)

10/3/13